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COPY

Dear Ed,

Philip Morris (Barclay Patents - Europe)
Our File: G1067

Thank you for your letters of 4th and 11th April. I can give you immediate advice on the situation in the four countries you mention with the original patent relating to the Actron filter.

This is the patent that corresponds to US 4 256 122, in which the Barclay cigarette is shown in Fig. 4. The status of the corresponding patent is as follows:-

Belgium: issued Patent No. 882 617. Most at least of the annuities have been paid, and it should be assumed that the patent is in force.

Netherlands: pending Application No. 80 01948. Examination was requested 18th December 1981. The application has been rejected but appeal was lodged 11th July 1985. An early decision is not expected.

Norway: Patent No. 151 916 issued 1985 and in force.

Switzerland: issued Patent No. 645 252. It should be assumed that this patent has been maintained in force.

I am in the process of updating the information on payment of annuities, which can only be done by local enquiries, and I am also assembling details of all the Swiss patents of Brown & Williamson on channelled ventilated filters, methods and apparatus. This material will be sent to you as quickly as possible.

It would be helpful if you could confirm that a complete list of all Swiss patents relating to this "type" of filter is actually needed. Many of them relate to remote structures that are never likely to be used, either by BAT or anybody else.

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The only patent beyond the original one that may be of present interest is the patent (if it exists) that corresponds to the modified filter referred to in the recent appeal hearing in the German Federal Patent Court. I have enquiries in hand to determine the characteristics of this modified filter, which may enable us to identify any relevant patent.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. Bass

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